

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The amendment to Claim 1 is supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been added to the present application by the amendments submitted above.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15-21 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Scott for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their representative on April 29, 2009. During the discussion, amendments and arguments to overcome the outstanding rejections were discussed. The following remarks expand on the discussion with the Examiner.

The present invention relates to a highly filled polyolefin compound comprising, in admixture, a maleic-anhydride-modified polyolefin, at least one filler and at least one amino-functional silicon compound selected from a specified group. See Claim 1.

The rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Roberts et al. in view of Ishizaka et al., and further in view of Schlosser et al., Kaprinidis, Chaillie et al. and Mack et al., are respectfully traversed. The cited references fail to suggest the claimed highly filled polyolefin compound.

Roberts et al. disclose a filled polyolefin. See the Abstract. As recognized by the Office, the reference fails to disclose the specified amino-functional silicon compound.

Ishizaka et al. disclose a coating composition and not a filled polyolefin in admixture as claimed. Accordingly, one would not combine Robert et al. and Ishizaka et al. since they relate to completely different types of compositions.

Schlosser et al. has been cited with respect to heating the mixing assembly. See page 3 of the Office Action. This reference fails to address the deficiencies of Roberts et al. and Ishizaka et al. identified above.

Kaprinidis has been cited with respect to forming the compound into pellets. See page 3 of the Office Action. This reference fails to address the deficiencies of Roberts et al. and Ishizaka et al. identified above.

Chaillie et al. has been cited with respect to a polymer based mixture of maleic anhydride grafted polyethylene and silicone oil that is used for cables. See page 4 of the Office Action. This reference fails to address the deficiencies of Roberts et al. and Ishizaka et al. identified above.

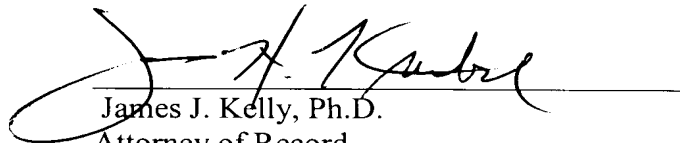
Mack et al. describe a filled polyamide. See the Abstract. Polyolefins as claimed and polyamides are completely different types of polymers. Polyamides are polar while polyolefins are not. For this reason, one would not look to Mack et al. to modify the filled polyolefins described in Roberts et al.

In view of the foregoing, the claimed highly filled polyolefin compound is not suggested Roberts et al. in view of Ishizaka et al., and further in view of Schlosser et al., Kaprinidis, Chaillie et al. and Mack et al.. Accordingly, the subject matter of the pending claims is not obvious over any combination of those references. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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